

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A tool holder device, comprising:

a planar guide plate comprising tapered edges, wherein a sidewall extends in a direction along each tapered edge, and wherein the sidewalls extend substantially perpendicular from a surface of the planar guide plate; and

a mounting portion for insertably receiving a spring clip mounted on a tool, the mounting portion being connected to the guide plate at an end portion thereof where the tapered edges converge;

wherein the mounting portion comprises a planar mounting plate that is substantially parallel with the planar guide plate, wherein the planar mounting plate is offset from the planar guide plate by a first distance to insertably receive a spring clip therebetween; and

wherein the mounting portion comprises a bottom plate, wherein the bottom plate extends in a direction along a bottom edge of the mounting plate, and wherein the bottom plate extends by a second distance from the surface of the mounting plate towards the planar guide plate to thereby cause the spring clip of the tool to resiliently deflect when engaged with the mounting portion.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 1 \oplus , further comprising an aperture that is defined, in part, by a bottom edge of the guide plate and an edge of the bottom plate.

5. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the device is formed of plastic.

6. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the device is formed of metal.

7. (Original) The device of claim 1, further comprising a mounting device for mounting the tool holder device to a belt.

8. (Original) The device of claim 7, wherein the mounting device comprises spring clips mounted to the guide plate.

9. (Original) The device of claim 7, wherein the mounting device comprises grooves for mounting on a user's belt.

10. (Original) The device of claim 7, wherein the mounting device comprises slots for inserting a belt.

11. (Original) A tool belt comprising a tool holder device as claimed in claim 1 mounted on the tool belt.

12. (Original) The device of claim 1, wherein the device comprises a tape measure holder device.

13. (Currently Amended) A tool holder device, comprising:

a guiding portion; and a

a mounting portion adapted to engage a spring clip of a tool for mounting the tool,

wherein the guiding portion is adapted to guide a spring clip towards the mounting portion as a person slides the tool from the guiding portion to the mounting portion while maintaining contact between the spring clip and the guiding portion;

wherein the guiding portion comprises a planar guide plate, and a sidewall that extends along the planar guide plate in a direction towards the mounting portion, wherein the sidewall is adapted to guide a spring clip in slideable contact with the planar guide plate towards the mounting portion;

wherein the mounting portion comprises a planar mounting plate that is substantially parallel with the planar guide plate, wherein the planar mounting plate is offset from the planar guide plate by a first distance to insertably receive a spring clip therebetween; and

wherein the mounting portion comprises a bottom plate, wherein the bottom plate extends in a direction along a bottom edge of the mounting plate, and wherein the bottom plate extends by a second distance from the surface of the mounting plate towards the planar guide plate to thereby cause the spring clip of the tool to resiliently deflect when engaged with the mounting portion.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 13 ~~14~~, wherein the planar guide plate comprises tapered edges that converge toward the mounting portion, wherein the sidewall extends in a direction along a tapered edge.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 13 +7, further comprising an aperture that is defined, in part, by a bottom edge of the guide plate and an edge of the bottom plate.

19. (Original) The device of claim 13, wherein the device comprises a tape measure holder device.

20. (Original) The device of claim 13, further comprising a mounting device for mounting the tool holder device to a belt.